



Department of Justice

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[Plattsburgh, New York]—United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced the sentencing of MITCHELL MARK DAVID in a significant drug prosecution. On February 16, 2011, United States District Court Judge Glenn T. Suddaby sitting in Albany sentenced DAVID to nineteen years (228 months) in prison, to be followed by a term of ten years supervised release.

On February 2, 2010, DAVID, age 54, of Cornwall, Ontario, Canada, pled guilty to all four charges contained in a Superseding Indictment: Conspiracy to Possess with the Intent to Distribute and to Distribute a Controlled Substance in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846 (Count 1), Possession with Intent to Distribute a Controlled Substance in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1) (Count 2), Conspiracy to Import a Controlled Substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 963 (Count 3) and Importation of a Controlled Substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 952(a) (Count 4).

DAVID has been in the custody of the United States Marshals since the time of his arrest on July 1, 2009.

The charges contained in the Superseding Indictment stemmed from an incident on July 1, 2009. On that date, DAVID arrived at Port of Entry in Massena, New York in a 1998 Dodge Caravan seeking admission into the United States. Inside the Dodge caravan, DAVID was transporting approximately 50,000 tablets (15 kilograms) of BZP (N-benzylpiperazine), a controlled substance commonly referred to as ecstasy. The tablets were contained in vacuum sealed packages secreted in a spare tire in the rear of the Dodge caravan.

During sentencing, Judge Suddaby considered evidence that DAVID's drug trafficking activities were not limited to the incident on July 1, 2009 and that DAVID was involved in a large scale conspiracy to smuggle ecstasy into the United States and cocaine and currency back into Canada. According to the evidence presented by the Government, DAVID smuggled large quantities of ecstasy tablets from Canada into the United States on numerous occasions through the Saint Regis Mohawk Reservation. After delivering the ecstasy to a courier in the United States, DAVID then smuggled multiple kilograms of cocaine and hundreds of thousands of dollars in United States currency back into Canada.

Inquiries may be directed to Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel C. Gardner at (518) 314-7800 or Deputy Criminal Chief William Pericak at (518) 431-0247.